## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 013701

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD:

BEGIN TEXT JANUARY 19, 1977

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I WELCOMED YOUR LETTER FOLLOWING THE NOVEMBER ELECTION. AS THE WORK OF THIS ADMINISTRATION NOW NEARS COMPLETION, I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY VERY GREAT SATISFACTION IN WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED.

FRANCE IS A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES. FROM THE TIME OF OUR FIRST TALKS AT MARTINIQUE, YOU AND I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF STRENGTHENING AND DEEPENING THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. WE HAVE SEEN THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES GROW, AND WE HAVE SEEN PROGRESS ON POLITICAL, DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO OUR NATIONS, TO THE INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES AND TO THE TRANS-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY.

AS I STATED IN MY STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, WE HAVE USED MANY AVENUES FOR COOPERATION, AND THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE DEMOCRACIES IS DEEPER, WARMER AND MORE EFFECTIVE THAN AT ANY TIME IN 30 YEARS.

I AM CONFIDENT IN THE COURSE WE HAVE SET, AND IN THE COMING MONTHS I WILL CONTINUE TO SPEAK OUT IN SUPPORT OF THE OBJECTIVES THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE SHARE. I CONSIDER YOU A HIGHLY VALUED PERSONAL FRIEND. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN AND TO FURTHERING THOSE WARM TIES.

BETTY AND I SEND OUR BEST WISHES TO YOU AND MADAME GISCARD D'ESTAING.

SINCERELY,

GERALD R. FORD

HIS EXCELLENCY
VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING
PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC
PARIS

END TEXT

2. POUCHED ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW. HABIB LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS

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Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
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Subject: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO VALERY GISCARD D\'ESTAING

TAGS: PFOR, PPDC, FR, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (GISCARD D\'ESTAING, VALERY)

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